



TN. DIV. OF
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

KEN JONES
County Executive

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES ID: 14

TAMI ELLIOTT
Administrative Assistant

MEIGS COUNTY, TENNESSEE
OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE
P.O. BOX 156
DECATUR, TENNESSEE 37322

RECEIVED

March 22, 2004

Commissioner Betsy Child
Tennessee Department of
Environment & Conservation
L & C Tower 21st Floor
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243-1531

Dear Commissioner Child:

Here with, please review Meigs County's response to your Department recommendation to E.P.A. of our non-attainment of ozone levels. As you are aware, Meigs County is one of the monitored locations in the state, although that monitor is situated in the most Southeastern corner of the county.

Meigs County is a very small, almost entirely rural location, and is home to only about 2 (two) % of the MSA as a whole. There are no four-lane highways, no railroad tracks, no coal-fired furnace, and practically no other NOX or VOC sources in the county. There are no industrial point sources in the county.

The primary weather patterns for this area move from Southwest to Northwest, and since the monitor is located some 30 (thirty) feet from Hamilton County and some 120 (one hundred twenty) feet from Bradley County, we feel that Meigs County is not being monitored. There is 35 (thirty five) miles of Meigs County to the North of this monitor.

Certainly, we do not want Meigs County to be held captive just because the monitor is located on Meigs County soil.

That being said, we can look at Local control measures.

1. Meigs County will accelerate replacement of vehicles, (both large and small, both gasoline and diesel engines) with new, lower emitting vehicles. As funds allow.
2. Meigs County would be open to the idea of retrofitting existing vehicles, if funding could be made available.

Points 1 and 2 would include all county owned vehicles, Sheriff Department, Highway Department, Fire & Rescue, Ambulance, on and off road vehicles.

3. Meigs County will certainly encourage Student outreach through education as to the impact of motor vehicles on the environment.



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4. Meigs County will support an Air Quality Action Day.
5. Meigs County will encourage our State and Federal Government to require all oil companies to implement more stringent regulation on fueling stations such as stage I and stage II controls.

In conclusion, the Clean Air Act requires an area be designated non-attainment if it has a monitor. Meigs County feels that this is the only reason for our designation. We have nothing in our county that produces NOX or VOC sources. This designation would impose an unfair burden on Meigs County, especially effect in economic growth. We feel that Meigs County should be fully excluded from this designation.

Thanking you in advance for any assistance you might give us. Please call if you need further information.

Sincerely,

Ken Jones
Meigs County Mayor

KJ/tae

Cc: Governor Phil Bredeson
Barry R. Stephens
Senator Bill Frist
Senator Lamar Alexander
Congressman Zach Wamp
State Senator Jeff Miller
State Representative Chris Newton
Decatur Mayor Calvin Rockhoff